

88

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/037,242

Examiner

Dennis G. Bonshock

Applicant(s)

MILTON ET AL.

Art Unit

2173

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Applicant's Amendment filed on 8-30-2007 and the Examiner Amendment of 10-11-2007.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-15,19-23,27-33,36-39 and 42-48.

3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:

1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☒ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.

(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____

4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____

7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Bea Koempel-Thomas on 10-11-2007.
3. The application has been amended as follows:

Replace claim 7 with:

7. **(Amendment Proposed)** A method of tuning at least one of a plurality of information presentation appliances in an inter-appliance communication network, comprising:

 facilitating configuring at least one of the plurality of information presentation appliances defined as Universal Plug and Play (UPnP) compliant devices which formerly only acted as a device to act as a control point, wherein at least one of the plurality of information presentation appliances facilitates disparate types of presentations, wherein disparate types of presentations include audio and still images, wherein the information presentation appliance is selected from the group comprising an electronic picture frame or a speaker;

 receiving a device description page written in a markup language;

parsing the device description page to identify available categories of information;

presenting the available categories of information to a user;

receiving user input via at least one of the plurality of information presentation appliances, wherein user input comprises:

selecting at least one category of information to be presented on the appliances, wherein at least one category comprises user-defined keywords created and entered by the user and blocked keywords created and entered by the user to further specify the category selection and aid in identifying the category if there is no match to the category selection within the communication network;

specifying selected categories of information to be blocked from presentation on the information presentation appliance;

specifying at least one user-defined blocked keyword that indicates information to be blocked from presentation on the appliance if the information contains the user-defined blocked keyword; and

invoking a deliver function referenced by a service description page to receive an element of information belonging to a category other than the selected categories of information, wherein the deliver function facilitates delivery of the element of information that is context and/or location specific.

Replace claim 15 with:

15. **(Amendment Proposed)** An information presentation appliance in an inter-appliance communication network, comprising:

at least one of a plurality of information presentation appliances which were defined as Universal Plug and Play (UPnP) compliant devices are configured to act as control points, wherein a UPnP device advertises its abilities and is controlled by a control point, while a control point listens or searches for devices it is capable of controlling and exerts control over those devices, wherein at least one of the plurality of information presentation appliances facilitates disparate types of presentations, wherein disparate types of presentations include audio and still images, wherein the information presentation appliance is selected from the group comprising an electronic picture frame or a speaker

a user input device for enabling a user to specify at least one category of information to be presented on the information presentation appliance, wherein at least one category comprises user-defined keywords created and entered by the user and blocked keywords created and entered by the user to further specify the category selection and aid in identifying the category if there is no match to the category selection within the communication network, and wherein

the user input device enables the user to specify categories of information to be blocked from presentation on the information presentation appliance to key-in at least one user-defined blocked keyword that further specifies information to be blocked from presentation on the appliance if the information contains the user-defined keyword,

Art Unit: 2173

wherein at least one of the categories is associated with the at least one user-defined blocked keyword;

a processing unit for creating a device description page written in a markup language and containing data representing the categories of information and the user-defined keywords and blocked keywords specified by the user through the user input device;

a memory storage for storing the device description page; and

a network connection for transmitting the device description page.

Replace claim 23 with:

23. **(Amendment Proposed)** An information presentation appliance in an inter-appliance communication network, comprising:

a network connection for receiving a device description page written in a markup language;

at least one of a plurality of information presentation appliances which were defined as Universal Plug and Play (UPnP) compliant devices are configured to act as control points, wherein a UPnP device advertises its abilities and is controlled by a control point, while a control point listens or searches for devices it is capable of controlling and exerts control over those devices, wherein at least one of the plurality of information presentation appliances facilitates disparate types of presentations, wherein disparate types of presentations include audio and still images, wherein the information presentation appliance is selected from the group comprising an electronic picture frame or a speaker; the at least one of a plurality of information presentation appliances comprising:

a user input device for receiving user input specifying at least one category of information to be presented on the information presentation appliance, wherein at least one category comprises user-defined keywords created and entered by the user and blocked keywords created and entered by the user to further specify the category selection and aid in identifying the category if there is no match to the category selection within the communication network, and wherein

the user input device receives user input specifying selected categories of information to be blocked from presentation on the information presentation appliance and at least one user-defined blocked keyword further specifying information to be blocked from presentation on the information presentation appliance if the information contains the user-defined blocked keyword, wherein at least one of the categories is associated with the at least one user-defined blocked keyword; and

a processing unit for:

parsing the device description page to identify at least one available category of information and at least one user-defined keyword associated with the category; and

invoking a deliver function referenced by a service description page to receive an element of information belonging to a category other than the selected categories of information.

Replace claim 33 with:

33. **(Amendment Proposed)** A computer-readable storage medium having computer executable instructions for tuning an information presentation appliance in an inter-appliance communication network, the computer-executable instructions performing a process comprising:

facilitating in an inter-appliance communication network configuring at least one

Art Unit: 2173

of a plurality of information presentation appliances which were defined as Universal Plug and Play (UPnP) compliant devices to act as control points, wherein a UPnP device advertises its abilities and is controlled by a control point, while a control point listens or searches for devices it is capable of controlling and exerts control over those devices, wherein at least one of the plurality of information presentation appliances facilitates disparate types of presentations, wherein disparate types of presentations include audio and still images, wherein the information presentation appliance is selected from the group comprising an electronic picture frame or a speaker;

receiving user input specifying at least one category of information to be presented on the information presentation appliance, wherein at least one category comprises user-defined keywords created and entered by the user and blocked keywords created and entered by the user to further specify the category selection and aid in identifying the category if there is no match to the category selection within the communication network, and wherein

receiving user input specifies categories of information to be blocked from presentation on the information presentation appliance, wherein at least one of the categories is associated with at least one user-defined blocked keyword entered by a user, and wherein the user-defined blocked keyword further specifies information to be blocked from presentation on the appliance if the information contains the user-defined blocked keyword;

creating a device description page using a markup language;

storing data representing the categories of information and the user-defined keywords and blocked keywords entered by the user in the device description page; and

transmitting the device description page with the categories of information through a network.

Replace claim 39 with:

39. **(Amendment Proposed)** A computer-readable storage medium having computer-executable instructions for tuning an information presentation appliance in an inter-appliance communication network, the computer-executable instructions performing a process comprising:

receiving a device description page written in a markup language;

parsing the device description page to identify available categories of information;

presenting the available categories of information to a user;

facilitating in an inter-appliance communication network configuring at least one of a plurality of information presentation appliances which were defined as Universal Plug and Play (UPnP) compliant devices to act as control points, wherein a UPnP device advertises its abilities and is controlled by a control point, while a control point listens or searches for devices it is capable of controlling and exerts control over those devices, wherein at least one of the plurality of information presentation appliances

facilitates disparate types of presentations, wherein disparate types of presentations include audio and still images, wherein the information presentation appliance is selected from the group comprising an electronic picture frame or a speaker;

receiving user input via the at least one of the plurality of information presentation appliances, wherein user input comprises:

receiving user input at the information presentation appliance specifying at least one category of information to be presented on the information presentation appliance, wherein at least one category comprises user-defined keywords created and entered by the user and blocked keywords created and entered by the user to further specify the category selection and aid in identifying the category if there is no match to the category selection within the communication network;

receiving user input at the information presentation appliance specifying selected categories of information to be blocked from presentation on the information presentation appliance;

receiving further user input at the information presentation appliance specifying at least one user-defined blocked keyword that indicates information to be blocked from presentation on the appliance if the information contains the user-defined blocked keyword; and

invoking a deliver function referenced by a service description page to receive an element of information belonging to a category other than the selected categories of information.

Oath/Declaration

The oath or declaration is defective. A new oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.67(a) identifying this application by application number and filing date is required. See MPEP §§ 602.01 and 602.02.

The oath or declaration is defective because:

The Declaration was not signed by the first inventor, Victoria Milton.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
2. The examiner considered the Applicant's Amendment filed on 8-30-2007 and the Examiner Amendment of 10-11-2007 and after updated search, no other prior art of record has taught that which was presented in the amended claims
3. Therefore, claims 1, 3-15, 19-23, 27-33, 36-39, and 42-48 are allowable.
4. Independent claims 1, 7, 15, 23, 33, and 39, when considered as a whole, are allowable over the prior art of record (Boylan, III et al., Pub. No.: US 2006/0288366, Buehl, Patent #5,912,696, Newlin et al., Patent #6,636,211, hereinafter Newlin, Understanding Universal Plug and Play, hereinafter MS and Dubal et al., Patent #6,711,630, hereinafter Dubal). Boylan teaches a method for tuning an information presentation appliance (advertisement program in a set top box) in a network environment (see paragraphs 54, 77, and 78). Boylan further teaches receiving user input specifying keyword for a particular category of information to be presented to a user (see paragraph 80). Boylan further teaches receiving user input specifying

keywords related to categories of information to be blocked from display (see paragraph 79). Boylan teaches, the advertisements having content tags specifying the type of data included in the advertisement (see paragraph 77), and a bidirectional communication path between the Television Distribution Facility [52] and the Set Top Box [54] where the Set Top Box provides the restrictions to the Television Distribution Facility which filters the advertisements. Boyland is further supplemented by Buehl which teaches a set top box for creating restriction on the type of media to be transmitted to it (see column 2, lines 15-30), similar to that of Boylan, but further teaches storing a preference vector describing the permissible media (see column 4, line 66 through column 5, line 15 and column 7, lines 1-35). Boylan and Buehl are further supplemented by Newlin which teaches a set top box for creating restriction on the type of media to be transmitted to it (see column 7, line 62 through column 8, line 14), but further teaches communication between apparatuses being via Plug-and -Play on a network of universal media access (see column 8, lines 55-65). Boylan, Buehl, and Newlin are further supplemented by MS teaches utilizing Plug-and-Play for audio/video entertainment and defines the Universal Plug-and-Play standard stating that communication is via Internet standards with XML device description documents (see page 2 paragraph 2 and page 11 paragraph 2). However, specifically the prior art of record fails to clearly teach or support the limitations of *the information presentation appliances, defined as Universal Plug and Play (UpnP) compliant devices acting as control points, being either a electronic picture frame or a speaker. Where user-defined and created keywords from the at least one of the plurality of information presentation*

appliances select a category of information to be presented or blocked from presentation.

7. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

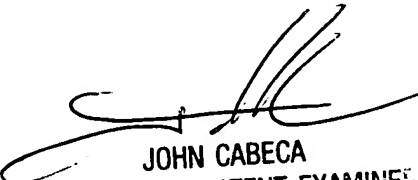
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dennis G. Bonshock whose telephone number is (571) 272-4047. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 6:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached on (571) 272-4048. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2173

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

10-11-07
dgb



JOHN CABECA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100